

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[00507] Transgenic silencing is a little understood process by which genes introduced into plants are turned off or silenced. Genetic screens were designed to identify corn mutants with reduced gene silencing activity. Such mutant corn lines include *Mop1-1*; *Mop1-2EMS*; *Mop2-1*, *mop3-1*; CC2343, *rnr1-1*; *rnr1-2*; *rnr2-1*; *rnr6-1*; *rnr7-1*; *rnr7-2*; *rnr8-1*; *rnr9-1*; *Mop1-4*; *Mop1-5*; and *rnr11-1* and seeds derived therefrom, the plants are useful for corn breeding programs to produce inbred and hybrid seed with reduced gene silencing activity.